



Watersipora arcuata

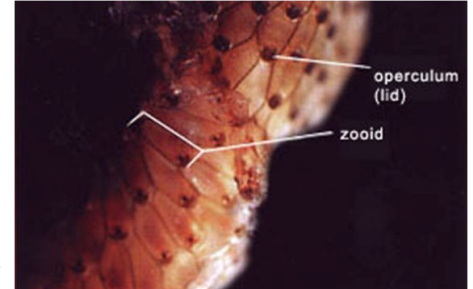
Lace coral

General

- Demersal, marine
- Capable of producing asexually or sexually

Threat scores

1. Ecological impact
 - Significant fouling organism; provides suitable surface for other fouling species
 - Resistant to fouling paints and polluted water, providing a surface for other fouling organisms, which would otherwise not be able to survive.
 - Able to survive in tropical and subtropical environments
2. Invasive potential
 - A fouling organism requiring assisted transport to expand alien range
3. Geographic extent
 - Regionally pervasive
4. Management Difficulty
 - Resistant to toxic paints
 - Currently no established control measures



Geography and Habitat

1. Origin: Mexican Pacific native/tropics and subtropics of the eastern Pacific (Banta 1969 cited in Keough and Ross 1999), also indicated as native in the Gallapagos Islands
2. Introduced: California, Hawai'i
3. Habitat
 - Fouling communities
 - Found attached to rocks and seaweed, along with many artificial structures such as vessel hulls, jetties, pylons and breakwaters
 - They form substantial colonies on these surfaces, typically around the low water mark

Invasion Pathways

1. Hull/Surface fouling
2. Stocking in open water - oyster farming

Non native locations

1. 59- S. California Bight
2. 152- Hawaiian Islands

Sources

1. Molnar, Jennifer, et al. 2008. "Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity." *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. 6 (9), pp. 485-492.
2. <http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/global.invasive.assessment>
3. <http://www.sealifebase.org/summary/SpeciesSummary.php?id=106356>
4. <http://www.marinespecies.org/aphia.php?p=taxdetails&id=395087>
5. <http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/pub/IMPMarine/IMPMarinePage17a.php?o506>